

Docket No. 243317US3/shb



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Kazuyuki ICHIKAWA, et al.

SERIAL NO: 10/673,155

GAU: 3679

FILED: September 30, 2003

EXAMINER:

FOR: SHAFT AND MANUFACTURING METHOD THEREOF

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97**

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Applicant(s) wish to disclose the following information.

**REFERENCES**

The applicant(s) wish to make of record the references cited in the attached European Search Report listed on the attached form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed references are attached, where required, as are either statements of relevancy or any readily available English translations of pertinent portions of any non-English language references.

A check or credit card payment form is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

**RELATED CASES**

Attached is a list of applicant's pending application(s) or issued patent(s) which may be related to the present application. A copy of the patent(s), together with a copy of the claims and drawings of the pending application(s) is attached along with PTO 1449.

A check or credit card payment form is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

**CERTIFICATION**

Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned, having made reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

**DEPOSIT ACCOUNT**

Please charge any additional fees for the papers being filed herewith and for which no check or credit card payment is enclosed herewith, or credit any overpayment to deposit account number 15-0030. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

C. Irvin McClelland

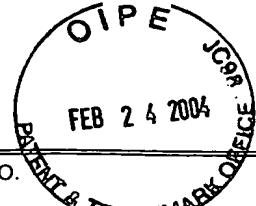
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SHEET 1 OF 1

Form PTO 1449 (Modified)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 243317US3	SERIAL NO. 10/673,155		
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT		APPLICANT Kazuyuki ICHIKAWA, et al.					
		FILING DATE September 30, 2003		GROUP 3679			
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	6,319,337	11/20/2001	K. YOSHIDA, et al.			
	AB	4,275,571	06/30/1981	H.- H. WELSCHOEF			
	AC	3,024,626	03/13/1962	T. A. FRISCHMAN			
	AD						
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<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	TRANSLATION		
					YES	NO	
	AO	1 016 801	07/05/2000	EUROPE			
	AP	2001-206004	07/31/2001	JAPAN (with English Abstract)		X	
	AQ	57-41840	03/09/1982	JAPAN (with English Abstract)		X	
	AR						
	AS						
	AT						
	AU						
	AV						
<b>OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)</b>							
	AW						
	AX						
	AY						
	AZ						<input type="checkbox"/> Additional References sheet(s) attached
Examiner					Date Considered		
*Examiner: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							